

The Economic Development Administration's role in disaster recovery is to provide assistance to communities to achieve long-term economic recovery through the strategic investment of local resources. In the last 3 years, at least 13 States have been victims of natural disasters that EDA has assisted in rebuilding their communities and revitalizing their local economies.

EDA operates the largest Federal program for defense adjustment. The Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment does an excellent job of supporting base reuse and community planning, only EDA can support the implementation of these plans. Over the next few years, communities affected by BRAC will be approaching EDA for critical base reuse funds.

Under EDA's Economic Adjustment Program, communities are provided with unique flexibility to design local strategies that achieve economic change and stability, and multicomponent projects to implement those strategies. This program serves a unique role in the nation's response to post-disaster economic recovery, base closure and defense industry downsizing as well as prolonged, persistent economic deterioration.

The administration's Infrastructure and Development Facilities Program aids economically distressed communities. It assists with construction of projects that improve opportunities for the establishment and expansion of commercial and industrial plants and facilities among other things. Since 1965 when EDA was created, this program has created more than 1.5 million jobs across the country.

I urge my colleagues opposition to amendments threatening EDA's funding.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to any amendment that would terminate and/or cut funding for the Economic Development Administration—the EDA.

Mr. Chairman, this year's recommended funding level for the EDA is but \$328.5 million. This is identical to the funding for fiscal year 1996—reflecting a 20-percent cut in EDA funding since fiscal 1995.

This is surely representative of EDA's fair share of reduced Federal spending we are called upon to make.

One of the most important features of EDA funding is that it provides vital funding to communities that have had, and are still experiencing, base closures and defense downsizing.

If it were not for the EDA, defense conversion funds, set at \$95 million in fiscal year 1997, where bases have been closed and Defense industry jobs lost—communities would not have the money to pick themselves up and dust themselves off—and get back on their feet again.

While West Virginia has had no base closures, and so Defense conversion funds do not assist my constituents, I know that many States depend upon the EDA's Defense conversions for economic development assistance, and I want them to have this \$95 million set aside for that purpose.

EDA funds also go to local development districts and university centers, and to areas that have been devastated by spring floods, and winter blizzards, and earthquakes, and hurricanes and tornadoes.

But such funds are also spent on communities faced with both chronic and sudden economic downturns that result in massive job losses.

Over the past 30 years, EDA has created almost 40,000 economic development projects, generated more than \$2 billion of private sector capital through revolving loan funds, supported more than 7,000 businesses, and leveraged \$3 for every Federal dollar invested. That doesn't sound like golden fleece awards to me.

My colleagues, listen to what is being said around you by Members of this body about how much EDA means to their economically distressed areas, and defeat any amendment to kill or reduce the EDA program, just as you defeated their twins last year.

□ 2045

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER].

The question was taken; and the Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 479, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] will be postponed.

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GOSS) having assumed the chair, Mr. GUNDERSON, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3814) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1997, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3814, DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during the further consideration of H.R. 3814, in the Committee of the Whole, pursuant to House Resolution 479 and the order of the House of July 17, 1996: First, the remainder of the bill be considered as read; and second no amendment shall be in order except for the following amendments, which shall be considered as read, shall not be subject to amendment or to a demand for a division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole, and shall be debatable for the time specified, and equally divided and controlled by the proponent and a Member opposed:

Amendment No. 10 by Mr. HOSTETTLER for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mrs. JACKSON-LEE (regarding the National Telecommunications and Information Administration) for 15 minutes;

Amendment No. 11 by Mrs. MINK for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. ROGERS (regarding NOAA) for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. ENGEL (regarding public broadcasting grants) for 10 minutes;

Amendment No. 20 by Mr. BROWN of California for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. ALLARD (regarding the Technology Administration) for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. GOSS (regarding EDA) for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. PORTER (regarding Asia Broadcasting) for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. OBEY (regarding ABM Treaty) for 15 minutes;

Amendment No. 19 by Mr. TRAFICANT for 5 minutes;

Amendment No. 28 by Mr. GUTKNECHT for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. DEUTSCH (regarding COPS) for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. ENSIGN (regarding sexually explicit material in prisons) for 10 minutes;

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts for 20 minutes;

Amendment No. 6 by Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts for 20 minutes;

Amendment No. 16 by Mr. GANSKE for 20 minutes;

Amendment No. 17 by Mr. GEKAS for 10 minutes;

Amendment No. 33 by Mrs. NORTON for 20 minutes;

An amendment by Mrs. FOWLER (regarding COPS) for 10 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (regarding Federal Prison Industries) for 15 minutes;

An amendment by Mr. HUTCHINSON (regarding deaths in prisons) for 10 minutes; and

An amendment by Mr. MILLER of Florida for 10 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2391

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, my name was inadvertently placed on H.R. 2391 as a cosponsor. I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 2391.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 479 and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 3814.

□ 2049

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole